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I believe that this is one part of that project, one part of that process that adds more value, that starts jobs. You know, under this program there was a little wool products manufacturer in Washington County that generated three jobs for I think \$15,000. And you say, well, that's about \$5,000 a job. That program was very successful. I believe that if you put money in a program like this you're going to get an awful lot more bang for the buck, more jobs for less dollars, than you will in almost any other investment in economic development. We have to do it in rural areas. Otherwise, we're going to be...continue to lose infrastructure that's out there, that's available, and we can't continue to just move people off the land and out of our rural communities into the metropolitan areas. continue to say, well, it's working here so let's all go into the metropolitan areas. We need to make sure that we have viable rural communities. This is one small approach that allows us to do that.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Connealy. Senator Landis, on amendment to the committee amendments.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I found several speeches, but certainly Senator Fischer's, and galvanizing. I believe that it's...the powerful circumstances that we find ourselves, particularly in rural Nebraska, are chastening, if not depressing. On a good day I think they're chastening; on a bad day I think they're probably disheartening. And towards that, I believe that, that sincerely. I believe that this may be part of the bigger puzzle that Senator Connealy just talked about. I'm not...I don't dispute that. My difficulty, as somebody who doesn't know and looking from the outside and wanting to be helpful, is whether or not this is the best piece or the piece we can afford from the ones that are out there claiming our time and attention. don't know and I need some help. I've got a bill in Revenue, LB 526. It's to provide ethanol incentives and funding. costs \$50 million bucks; \$25 million of it for a new program on ethanol. I've historically supported ethanol Right now, ethanol has \$128 million red tag to it that we can't afford. I was doing that when I voted all the way for that process and helping rural Nebraska. I've got a \$120 million shortfall in